

Media Contact: Cecilia Sulhoff, 202-418-0587 cecilia.sulhoff@fcc.gov

For Immediate Release

FCC ESTABLISHES CHALLENGE PROCESS FOR MOBILITY FUND PHASE II TO PROMOTE ACCESS TO MOBILE BROADBAND SERVICES IN RURAL AMERICA

WASHINGTON, August 3, 2017 – Today, the FCC established the procedures for a robust challenge process to ensure that the Commission targets Mobility Fund Phase II (MF-II) support to primarily rural areas that lack unsubsidized 4G LTE service. Establishing the challenge process will enable the Commission to resolve eligible area disputes quickly and expeditiously.

In February, the Commission established the framework for the MF-II, \$4.53 billion of funding over ten years, and sought comment on the process under which interested parties could challenge the eligibility of areas for MF-II support. Today's action establishes a challenge process that will be administratively efficient and fiscally responsible.

This item adopts parameters for a one-time collection of 4G LTE coverage data tailored to MF-II. The Commission will use this coverage data, in conjunction with subsidy data, to establish the map of presumptively eligible areas. Interested parties will have a window after the release of this map to file challenges to areas deemed presumptively ineligible, and providers will have an opportunity to respond to those challenges.

Today's item also includes an Order on Reconsideration, which resolves certain issues raised in petitions for reconsideration of the Mobility Fund II Report and Order adopted in February.

The Commission is committed to advancing seamless nationwide access to mobile voice and broadband services, primarily in rural areas, by responsibly allocating limited funds.

Action by the Commission August 3, 2017 by Order on Reconsideration and Second Report and Order (FCC 17-102). Chairman Pai and Commissioners Clyburn and O'Rielly approving and issuing separate statements.

WC Docket No. 10-90; WT Docket No. 10-208

###

Office of Media Relations: (202) 418-0500 ASL Videophone: (844) 432-2275 TTY: (888) 835-5322

Twitter: @FCC www.fcc.gov/office-media-relations

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).